William Bushnell

Killingly

Thurs Dec 5 11

Rev. Amos A. Phelps

Boston

Mass.

the project for a new religious paper to be published in Boston, to take a middle ground between the "Dr. G. Evangelist" & "Dr. G. Observer". I hoped the project would be consummated; but I have ~~not~~ heard nothing from it since. Can you tell me what has become of the scheme? I know but little about you in Boston. Do let me hear from time to time what you are about.

Please add to your list the following.

Elisha Atkins. Pastor of 1st cong. ch. Fitchburg

William Burbank. Colleague past. do. do.

Yours.

W. Burbank

Garrison is neither just nor honest. He is engaged in a good cause; but when we compare the evil results of his efforts, with the good; I am constrained to believe that, notwithstanding his good intentions & the ardor of his feelings in promoting the cause, he is doing not as much good as harm to it.

The colonization society is slow; & will ever be; for it is lame. But I cannot see all the fault in its operations that some do. To me, its faults seem rather to be of a negative kind. I find fault with it because it does so little, rather than on account of its indirect tendency to harm. But let it do all that any society for colonizing the people of color can do, & it will then do, compared with what is to be done, nothing. The system of slavery in the U.S. must die or you & I must die & slavery may stand in our place & triumph in our liberties; & as soon as it can be done consistently with the greatest good & safety must fall from the West in the length & breadth of the land.

In giving you my name, I do it as a subscriber to the sentiments contained in the circular which you sent me & which, if I understand it, is to be appended to your letters. I do not endorse any sentiments which those letters may contain.

Sometime ago brother D. A. Grosvenor mentioned

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Killingly Dec. 22 1833

Brother Phelps,

Some six weeks since, I received from you a letter, accompanied by a circular for the adoption & signatures of clergymen. I immediately gave it a close, critical & candid reading; partly to learn what the abolitionists of Boston were about & partly to see if I could espouse their cause. But after all & scanning I could bring to the subject, I could discover, in the circular, nothing, which I could not, with my own moderate notions, fully subscribe.

I presented the circular to the senior pastor, Father Atkins, whose name I send you; & he said he saw nothing exceptionable in it; & took it, saying he would look it over again. The result you have.

I have delayed till this time, & perhaps too long for your purpose, because I wished to make some effort to obtain other names. But the result has been the in consequence of a great pressure of my own business & some ill health, I have scarcely done any thing. I hope however to get another name; but perhaps not; if I do, it will be within a week.